

Newport Town Council  
Meeting Minutes  
January 17, 2019

Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Michael Spencer. He announced that the meeting was in compliance with the Delaware Open Meeting Act.

Attendance: Mayor Michael Spencer, Vice Mayor John Joswick, Town Manager Wendy King, Commissioner Tim Chatburn, Commissioner Florence Czerwinski, Commissioner CarolAnn Gretz, Acting Police Chief Mark Wohner, and Solicitor Chris Griffiths.

Minutes from the meeting of December 20, 2018, were approved via motion by Vice Mayor Joswick and seconded by Commissioner Czerwinski.

Public Comment - Erin Goldner, Hope Street DE, explained what Hope Street was and what they do for the recovering community.

Dave Goula, Wilmapco, made a presentation on the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan. The Powerpoint slides will be entered into the record. There were questions from the audience relating to the James Street bridge, the upcoming feasibility study of a bike path connecting to the Jack Markell bike path and the train stop.

Town Manager's Report - Feasibility study grant for bike path, Waste Management recycling schedule, street paving per priority, funds being transferred into the capital account, Election 2019, budget notes and selection of donations by commissioners.

Police Chief's Report -December, 2018 and annual department statistics, new officer Anthony Bell (riding with Corporal Mitchell).

Alderman's Report - \$25,085

Maintenance - Report was offered with no questions.

Code Enforcement - Parking issues were addressed.

Commissioner Chatburn asked about leaf pickup and it was confirmed that leaf pickup is finished for the season.

Legal: Solicitor Griffiths handled two FOIA requests, is involved with negotiations with Sprint and their request to increase their coverage on the monopoly. There will be an Executive Session in February for personnel matters. One taxpayer has caught up on his taxes and their lien was removed.

Commissioners - no issues.

Mayor Spencer mentioned that the Bike Grant will be finalized soon. The feasibility study will cover the "choke" points of the projected path which will most likely be the most expensive overall. He attended the Delaware League of Local Government monthly dinner and there was discussion of handicapped parking and

disabled activist who is attempting to have a bill developed/passed where it would require the retrofitting of accessible parking, etc. Commissioner Gretz felt Mayor Spencer was disrespectful toward the woman in his description of the conversations and the woman's requests. He did not agree as he reminded council of his own disability and that he was not slamming the woman for being disabled.

There was no new business.

Mayor Spencer made a motion to adjourn. Vice Mayor Joswick seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.